

Nation

The First in a Series:

“Ten Long Years”: Ann Martin’s Story



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ABORIGINAL RIGHTS DON'T EXIST IN QUEBEC, SAYS GOV'T

CHIEFS FROM QUEBEC AND LABRADOR PASSED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION ON OCT. 17. IT DENOUNCES RECENT ATTEMPTS BY QUEBEC TO DENY THAT ABORIGINAL RIGHTS EXIST IN THIS PROVINCE.

WHEREAS the case of *Cote, Decontie et al v. The Queen* was recently heard and decided by the Supreme Court of Canada;

WHEREAS the Algonquins concerned, members of an expedition to teach traditional fishing methods, were charged by the Quebec government with not paying permit fees for motor vehicle access or fees for fishing in a controlled harvest zone;

WHEREAS the Quebec government urged the Supreme Court of Canada to accept the following positions, in effect seeking the complete domination, assimilation or subjugation of all Aboriginal peoples in Quebec:

- i) Aboriginal peoples in Quebec do not possess the same aboriginal rights as Aboriginal peoples do elsewhere in other provinces;
- ii) in particular, in the absence of express recognitions of aboriginal rights by French Colonial authorities, it should be concluded that Aboriginal peoples in Quebec did not have any such fundamental rights;
- iii) no Aboriginal peoples have enjoyed any aboriginal rights anywhere in the province for the past 450 years and, therefore, the recognition and affirmation of aboriginal rights in s. 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* have no application whatsoever in Quebec; and
- iv) the doctrine of *terra nullius* (land belonging to no one) should be applied in Quebec...;

WHEREAS it is scandalous that the Quebec government would seek intentionally to obliterate the aboriginal rights of all First Nations throughout Quebec;

WHEREAS it is discriminatory to suggest that, in the absence of express recognition of aboriginal rights by European newcomers (French) to what is now the province of Quebec, Aboriginal peoples did not possess any such fundamental rights;

WHEREAS it is outrageous for the Quebec government to imply that the *terra nullius* doctrine can be applied in a civil law jurisdiction such as Quebec...;

WHEREAS the prohibition against racial discrimination is a part of customary international law and a peremptory norm, for which no government can derogate;

WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada has highlighted the racially discriminatory and colonial arguments of the Quebec government as follows:

"...the (Quebec government)'s proposed interpretation risks undermining the very purpose of s. 35(1) by *perpetuating the historical injustices suffered by aboriginal peoples at the hands of colonizers* who failed to respect the distinctive cultures of pre-existing aboriginal societies..."

WHEREAS the Supreme Court of Canada has also underlined that "in its diplomatic relations, the French Crown maintained that the aboriginal peoples were sovereign nations rather than mere subjects of the monarch."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Chiefs of the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador condemn the racially discriminatory and colonial positions taken by the present Quebec government under the leadership of Premier Lucien Bouchard; ...

THAT Prime Minister Jean Chretien and other First Ministers be alerted of the discriminatory positions of the Quebec government, emphasizing once again the need for specific safeguards and affirmations for Aboriginal peoples in the context of any constitutional recognition of a "distinct society" clause (or its equivalent) in favour of Quebec; ...

THAT the unacceptable positions being taken by the Quebec government be brought to the attention of human-rights organizations as well as the broader domestic and international community.

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Photo: NEIL DIAMOND
Harry Whiskeychan, Cree
artisan from Waskaganish



I ought to have been whipped and beaten for being so derelict in my duties to you, **John and Joan Cree Public**, these past few issues. I admit it. Rez Notes sucked. Why? It's personal. Very personal actually. It's so personal I don't even know why I brought it up. Maybe it's just a cry for help. Anyway, we must forge ahead and tell those stories that need to be told. For better or for worse. In sickness and in health.

We have shocking stories from the city's newspapers. This one comes to us from Edmonton where a man was necking with his chick when she suddenly turned on him and bit off his tongue and flushed it down the toilet. He ran from his home bleeding and the authorities were called. Surgeons and speech therapists were hopeful, though, that the poor man can learn to speak and will have to use new eating methods.

A nine-year-old girl and her sisters ended up behind bars for stealing \$10,000 from a bank vault in Spain not too long ago. The young girl's sisters distracted bank employees while she slipped into the vault and grabbed the money. Fortunately Spanish authorities have not yet recovered the cash.

If you're going to be in Montreal to do your Christmas shopping check out *Native Solidarity News* Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m. on CKUT at 90.3 FM. CKUT is McGill's student-run radio station.

Remember that recording by Cree youth that was supposed to be released months ago? I just found out that, yes, it will hit store shelves very, very soon. But don't tell anybody just yet. It's supposed to be a secret.

A note was left on the bulletin board for us by **Deantha Edmunds** informing us of a logo competition for the Ojay-owned Polaris franchise in Chibougamau. Call **Pierre Michaud** at (418) 748-3366. Who knows, maybe the first prize will be a new

snowmachine.

The Nation-slash-Cree School Board Hallowe'en party is on tomorrow. I am sure to win for scariest costume when I go dressed as **Erland S. Campbell** of HEATT! Everybody's been talking about nothing else around the office these past few weeks. Look on this page next issue for the story and photos.

Look out for this year's version of *The Nation* calendar featuring Crees from all walks of life. It should be out before Christmas. "It'll even better than last year's!" exclaimed calendar artiste **Rhonda Rue**.

Our roving operative reports that the fine people in a small Cuban town don't have toilet paper so they felt free to use instead pages from *The Nation*. Someone, please, send them a gift subscription of the New York Times before they commit more sacrilege.

Post-Communist Romanians too poor to die, screams a headline from Reuter News. Many, the article reads, can't afford proper burials and their "only hope is to pray for as long a life as possible."

We have good news for them from jolly old England though where Doomsday has been postponed. It will now be on November 4. This should be today for most of you. So, goodbye.

...This just in, 45 minutes after the printer was supposed to arrive (where is he?!) Late-breaking news from Dorval Airport, where Will is waiting for his flight with some European politicians to Eeyou Astchee. We are told that Canada has just made an important declaration at the UN earlier today. It's probably on TV as we speak. Crees have been recognized as a "peoples," as opposed to a "people." Canada now officially recognizes the Cree right to self-determination.

And to live happily ever after.

Ndianon

the Nation



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ALGONQUINS BACK ON THE BARRICADES

Two weeks after the Algonquins of Barriere Lake set up a blockade on a logging road in La Verendrye Park, they were still waiting for a response from the government.

"We're still waiting. My phone's sitting there. Our fax is ready," said Wanda Tusky, a spokeswoman for the protesters. "They've got to move because people are getting impatient."

On Oct. 20, about 150 Algonquins, men, women and children, blocked a road off Highway 117, the main artery between Abitibi and southern Quebec. The protesters accuse lumber giant Domtar Inc. of clearcutting Algonquin land in violation of a landmark trilateral agreement signed in 1991 between Barriere Lake, Canada and Quebec.

The blockade has prompted Domtar to pull 100 loggers out of its operations in the middle of the La Verendrye Wildlife Reserve.

Also behind the protest is the fact that Barriere Lake has been in a sort of political limbo for nearly a year, since Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin removed the community's chief from power.

Irwin appointed an interim council to run the community but its mandate expired in June. For nearly a year, the band has had no officially recognized chief, no school and no band services. Residents were told to send their kids to school in Maniwaki, 150 km to the south, but many parents refused to do so.

The standoff raises doubts about the future of the trilateral agreement, heralded as an international precedent for how First Nations and logging interests can co-exist. The final stage of talks to implement the agreement is behind schedule and will probably not meet the Dec. 31 deadline.

Liberal MP Clifford Lincoln, a former advisor to the Algonquins and one-time Quebec Environment Minister, had harsh words for Ottawa's handling of the situation. "I just feel sad that they have to blockade a road every couple of years just to be noticed. If any group of people deserve a break, it is they," he told us.

"Now, with all the mess that's taken place, it seems the agreement is dying and the chances of its fruition are small. I understand their frustration."

—Alex Roslin

FORMER TEACHER JAILED FOR MOLESTATION

A former Chisasibi high school teacher who now lives in Val d'Or has been arrested three times for indecent acts and molesting children. The news has sent shockwaves through Chisasibi and the school system.

Joe Cannon taught high school in Chisasibi for a year in the mid-1980s. He was fired after complaints from female teachers who said he would hang around without any clothes on in the laundry room in the teachers' residence.

Last February, Cannon was sentenced to three months in jail and three years' probation after pleading guilty to molesting two Native girls he had lured into his house. One was 9 years old, the other 11. In Sept. 1995, Cannon got a \$200 fine after pleading guilty to committing indecent acts in the presence of a minor. In Feb. 1995, Cannon was sentenced to three months in jail for indecent acts involving two minors.

Cannon was never accused of misconduct toward students while in Chisasibi. Still, parents, administrators and teachers are asking how someone like Cannon could be allowed to teach kids. How did he get hired in the first place? And why is it so hard to get rid of a teacher once problems surface?

"In the past, the school committee didn't look at references," said Mary McKee, Community Education Administrator in Chisasibi. "Now they're very careful."

McKee also pointed a finger at the teachers' union for defending unqualified teachers and making it hard to dismiss them.

"I don't fault the union," said Terry Gates, a high school teacher in Chisasibi. "It's an organization. Naturally it's going to stick up for its members," he said.

"I would fault the administration because time and time again they don't take proper procedures and keep track of the details in a case, and when it goes to grievance, it gets thrown out," said Gates.

Getting rid of a teacher is a long and expensive process for the Cree School Board. The school board is presently embroiled in court cases with four teachers it's trying to dismiss, two in Chisasibi and two in Mistissini.

One of the cases, that of Chisasibi teacher Hugh Mahabir, has been in the courts for seven years, since 1989, according to Francois Badin, personnel director at the Cree School Board. Mahabir is accused of inappropriate behaviour in the classroom, according to Badin—"borderline with sexual connotations."

The other Chisasibi court case involves a Cree teacher accused of sexually inappropriate behaviour toward children.

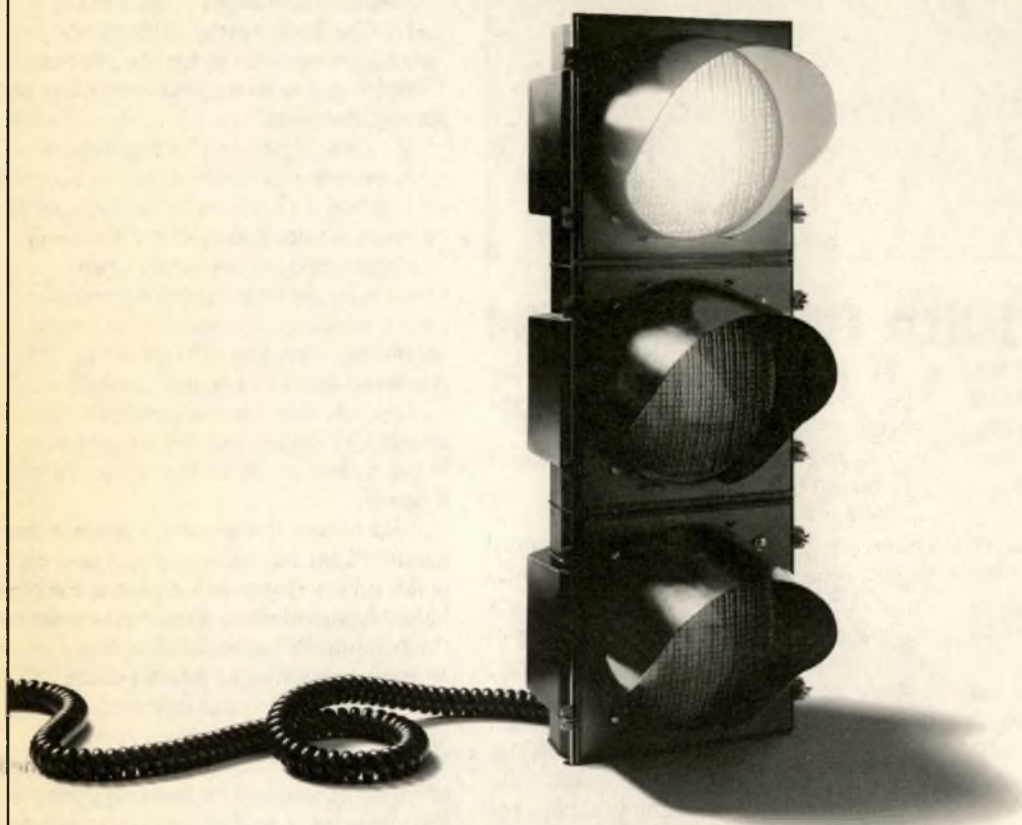
Not all cases result in victories for the school board. Far from it. An example is Chisasibi teacher Louise Cloutier, who was let go in June 1995 after numerous complaints about allegedly abusive conduct toward students. In one incident, she allegedly threw a flute at a student.

Cloutier filed a grievance and in an out-of-court settlement the school board agreed to take her back. But because her position had been abolished, she was put on an availability list, receiving full pay for no work.

"It's very expensive," said Badin. "Arbitrators across Canada are very difficult right now. They won't confirm a dismissal like that, only if it's a very, very serious case. We'll use that option only if we have no choice."

by Alex Roslin

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JOHN KITCHEN DEFENDS TALLYMAN DEALS

It's been two years since tallymen in Waswanipi started getting "assistance" from forestry companies for damage caused to their traplines.

Chief John Kitchen is the man who championed the so-called "tallyman agreements." It may not be long-term compensation, he says, but at least it's helping people survive off the land.

"You can't call it compensation. It's a short-term thing," said Kitchen. "It helps the CTA because a lot of people go to the CTA and ask for assistance. A lot of times our CTA is pulling their hair out."

In the last two years, Kitchen said Waswanipi trappers have received \$450,000 from forestry companies like Domtar, Donohue and Scierie Amos.

The most recent payments sparked some controversy because they were given out just two weeks before local elections in August, which Kitchen won by only a few dozen votes. After the election, speculation circulated around Waswanipi about the timing of the payments of the four \$10,000 cheques by Domtar.

Kitchen joked about the timing, saying, "That's four votes," but added that the payments were not timed with the election. "They were supposed to get it in May or June, but it was delayed because Domtar's cutting plans changed, so they had to change who they gave the money to," said the chief.

Kitchen said five more \$10,000 cheques were given out by Norbord in July.

Opinion has been divided on the impact of the tallyman agreements on Cree rights and on the struggle to change forestry practices.

In November 1995, CTA

President Edward Gilpin wrote an open letter attacking the agreements addressed to Kitchen, his Band Council and the community's trappers. Gilpin even questioned whether tallymen have the right to sign such agreements, which may jeopardize the rights of all Crees.

"We have great doubts as to whether or not a tallyman can in fact allow Cree Traditional Territory and Wildlife to be affected of his own volition and without the input of both his community and those surrounding them," wrote Gilpin.

"We have stated before the People of Quebec, of Canada and before the World that these Rights are inherent and cannot be given away. This type of agreement, even if it is considered invalid as we believe, sends the exact opposite signal to those around us and we cannot let this take place."

Kitchen counters by saying that the trappers are the ones who ask for assistance from the logging companies. "Every time I have a meeting with the trappers, I tell them, do you want to sit down with the companies? They always do. Nobody's forcing them," he said.

But Kitchen does acknowledge this assistance is just a short-term solution. The chief said he plans to make a series of ground-breaking new proposals to the other Cree chiefs. These proposals could pave the way for real compensation and revenue-sharing from development.

One of the proposals is to assist trappers from the James Bay Eeyou Fund. Some people hope this will allow trappers to stop taking money from forestry companies and get away from their divide-and-conquer tactics.

by Alex Roslin

AMBASSADOR MOSES TAKES A WALK

Cree Ambassador Ted Moses told a UN forum in Geneva recently that the Crees will not accept being forced to remain in an independent Quebec.

Moses went on to accuse the international community of harboring a double standard on the right of self-determination when speaking to the UN Working Group on Indigenous Peoples.

He said it is unacceptable that Quebec be allowed to secede from Canada while the Cree are refused similar rights of self-determination.

Moses said it would be paramount to the forcible removal of the Crees from Canada and would deny Cree constitutional, citizenship and treaty rights.

Moses clarified that he was not promoting Cree secession from Quebec or encouraging any violent acts. The choice of whether to stay in Canada or go with Quebec is a Cree right, said Moses.

The Working Group at the forum had looked for a Native seal of approval on a draft on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Native participants had other ideas and staged a massive walkout. They were protesting that some countries are insisting on having a free hand in making changes to the document.

Moses said that the walkout happened because Crees and other Native peoples feel they are being left out of the process.

The governments and Natives are back at the table and discussions have resumed.

IPPERWASH UPDATE

After a year, most of the charges placed against the Stoney Point Chippewa have been dropped. Only six people will go to trial. Three are charged with forcible entry and the other three face a variety of charges.

The Ipperwash Park occupation was a Native protest over rights to land. It began on Sept. 4, 1995 and within two days Chippewa Dudley George was dead. One of the OPP officers at Ipperwash faces charges of criminal negligence causing death.

Charges were dropped for 20 other

continued on page 9

ANNOUNCEMENT

At the Council of Commissioners meeting held on September 27, 1996, the CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN and THIRD EXECUTIVE MEMBER OF THE CREE SCHOOL BOARD were elected.

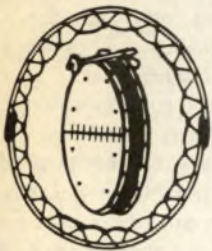
The results are the following:
Robert Weistche, Chairman
Mabel Herodier, Vice-Chairperson
Allan Happyjack, Third Executive Member

These people will hold office for the Year 1996-1997.

On behalf of myself and the Cree School Board, we wish them an enjoyable, successful and challenging year.



Gordon Blackned
Director General
Cree School Board



C.R.A.
A.R.C.



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4th Posting

Position: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Location of Work: Ouje-Bougoumou (QC)

The CRA, Board of Compensation and the Cree Regional Economic Enterprises Company (CreeCo) Inc. are presently seeking a resourceful and highly motivated individual to assist the Chairman of the Board of Compensation and the President of Cree Regional Economic Enterprises Company (CreeCo) Inc. This employment will be under the supervision of the Chairman of the Board of Compensation and the President of Cree Regional Economic Enterprises Company (CreeCo) Inc.

The Administrative Assistant will perform administrative, secretarial, and clerical services related to the said offices, and any other related tasks required by the immediate supervisor.

Interested applicants should possess:

- organizational and administrative skills;
- completion of high school and business administration course;
- ability to speak & write English & Cree;
- knowledge of French would be an asset;
- knowledge of computer equipment is necessary;
- ability to take, transcribe and maintain

- strong coordination, research, and communication skills;
- ability to work under pressure, and independantly with minimum supervision.

Salary will be remunerated according to qualifications and experience. Applicants should apply with their resume before November 29, 1996 to the following address:

**203, Opemiska Meskino
Ouje-Bougoumou, QC.
GOW 3C0
Attention: Lorraine Boulianne**

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protesters. An Ontario official said this was done because the Natives had an honest belief that they had justification for their occupation of the park through "colour of right."

The official said correspondence between Indian Affairs and the Ontario government in 1937 supports the protesters' claim to the land. The correspondence refers to an "old Indian cemetery" on the land that later became Ipperwash Provincial Park.

Roger Obonsawin, a Native activist, said that the dropping of the charges confirms that the police over-reacted at Ipperwash.

Cries for a public inquiry into the events surrounding Ipperwash have gone unheard by government. The government says that all trials should be held first before any inquiry is started.

BENEFIT CD FOR LEONARD PELTIER

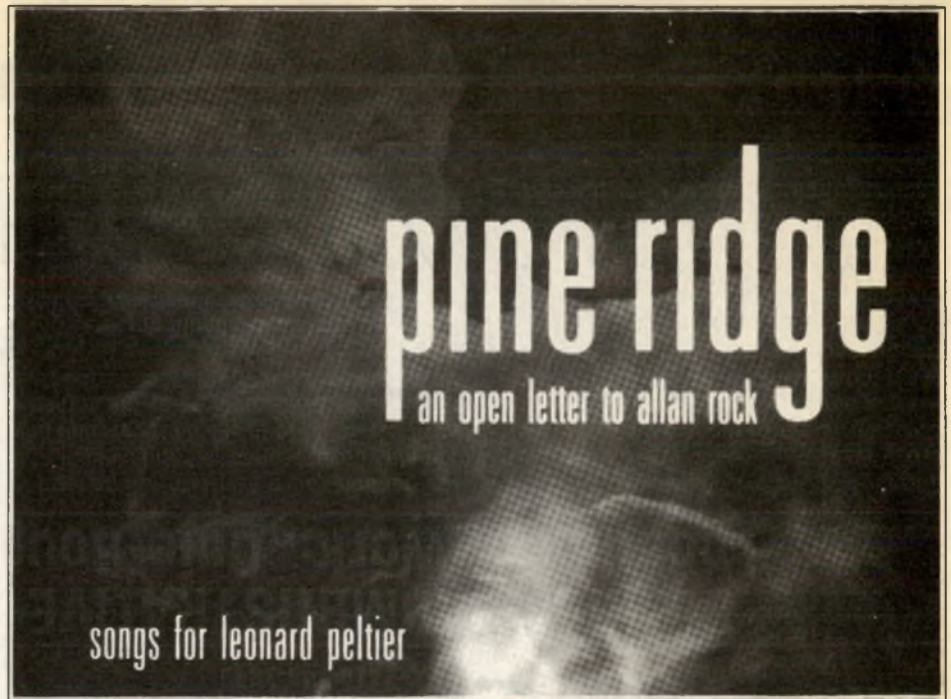
Blue Rodeo guitarist Greg Keelor is sending a CD to Justice Minister Allan Rock. It's entitled, *Pine Ridge: An Open Letter to Allan Rock*. The new CD features artists such as the Tragically Hip, Sarah McLachlan and Jane Siberry.

Keelor said he was inspired after meeting an interesting guy in a ponytail. The guy happened to be Frank Dreaver, head of the Canadian chapter of the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee.

Most people remember Peltier as the member of the American Indian Movement who became the fall guy after two FBI officers were killed during a shootout at Pine Ridge, South Dakota.

Peltier was extradited to the U.S. based on information that the U.S. government concedes was fabricated and false. Amnesty International recognizes Peltier as a political prisoner. He was denied parole most recently on March 18, 1996 because Peltier has never written a "a specific, factual account of (his) actions... consistent with the jury's verdict of guilt," yet Peltier continues to say he is innocent of the charges brought against him. Courts agree with Peltier's defense that the evidence was fabricated and at best circumstantial, but he remains in jail.

The profits from the new CD distributed by Warner Music will go to the Canadian chapter of the defense.



Looking Out, Looking In

There was once an old oak tree that stood on our lawn
And Grandpa kept watch on it each evening and dawn
Some said he was crazy, some said he was sad,
And now they all wonder why I am so glad
You see, as I look out there to where once stood a tree
I see a reflection of someone who looks just like me
And behind my reflection, I see my own son
Watching me doing what Grandpa once done
I see my whole living room -- into the kitchen, and stairs,
I can watch my family while they're unaware
A whole different world of insight is here
And what was once a mystery is now all so clear
Grandpa wasn't looking at the oak tree outside
He watched his own home and watched it with pride
So, now I look to my reflection and let the magic begin
It is the beauty of looking out there... by looking in.

Ponder

One face, many mirrors, seeing, not seen
A pebble on the roadside, a stone in a stream
A second of a lifetime, a year in an hour
The hand of an adoring child standing over a flower
The tales all heard, always telling, to be told
Summer's harvest and Spring, when Winter's secrets unfold
A New Year's promise, a gift given each December
Yesterday's hope for tomorrows, days soon remembered,
Between the memories and dreams, the wish and the star,
Like reflections in a raindrop... ah... there you are.

Poems by Larry "Two Horses" Bone, a Metis originally from Winnipeg, now incarcerated in the Attica prison in New York State.

10 Long Years

Ann Martin's story

For too long now, from generation to generation, spousal abuse has been shrouded in a veil of secrecy and hidden behind a wall of silence.

I want to share other women's experiences with you, and also those of older generations, their beliefs, their teachings. And how we have come to face such prejudice from abusive men.

The abuse towards women did not come from the Creator, but came from ourselves. The following is Ann Martin's story, the first in a series of articles on the subject of wife abuse. I will write about how we have been subdued to become the victims of emotional suffering by our own spouses. I will write about the excuses men have been taught, that women are less than men.

I feel in order to deal with this issue we have to go back to the days of our grandmothers and great-grandmothers, and find out where in our lives we allowed this abuse to take control of our emotions and of our own beings. So much has changed from the days of our grandmothers. The abuse they faced left them out in the cold, whereas in these days many laws have changed, and women are now being given rights to voice the abuse.

No one has the right to dominate or injure another human being and by working together, by sharing our views on this issue, we can stop this vicious cycle of abuse. If we do not, our children will become abusers and victims of abuse. We can deal with this issue by first looking at ourselves and the pain we have inside and try to heal ourselves. *Remember, the abuse will cease to exist if one says no more to the abuse.*

**Interview and introduction
by Marilyn Bearskin
Herodier**

This is Ann Martin's story

Ann Martin: My husband and I got together very young. The abuse had already started before we married. Alcohol played a big role in our marriage.

The Nation: Why did you marry him if there was already abuse?

I guess I thought it would stop. He always told me it wouldn't happen again. But it happened that I lived with the abuse for 10 long years. He abused me only when he was drinking. He had a lot of anger because of what he went through as a child. There was a lot of alcohol in his family, a lot of abuse.

For a long time, I kept the abuse a secret. I never told my mother or my sisters. I used to think I was the only woman going through this abuse.

Many times when he would come home drunk, I would get abused, he'd turn our house upside down and wake our children. Many nights our children would be woken in the middle of the night by his anger. When I look back, I regret letting my kids see the abuse and how we abused them by teaching them the abuse. I also used to take my anger out on my kids. I see the effects on them now.

I once tried to deal with the abuse by trying to make it stop. I talked to my husband and convinced him to go to A.A. I guess I figured alcohol was to blame. He would go for a while, but he'd start drinking again and the abuse would start gain. I used to think to myself when he abused me, "What am I doing wrong?!" I started to drink also. I drank so I wouldn't feel the pain, the physical and emotional pain. When he wasn't drinking, he was a completely different person, he was nice. There was always, I guess, hope that things would change.

The alcohol changed him. He would sell our stuff just to get alcohol. I had a lot of anger towards that. This one time when he got angry, he took all my clothing outside and burned them. I didn't even know he had done that. My neighbour told me. Also, this one time, his brother was staying with us and he came home drunk

and started turning our home upside down. And then he started on me. I told his brother to call the police. They finally came, after two phone calls to them. They told me that they couldn't do anything because it was his house. It didn't seem to matter that my house was upside down or the kids couldn't sleep. I

For a long time, I kept the abuse a secret. I never told my mother or my sisters. I used to think I was the only woman going through this abuse.

couldn't believe they had to wait for something drastic to happen.

I finally decided I was going to take a step, so I went to a women's shelter. From there I got my own place. I left for six months. His brother kept calling me, telling me to go back to my husband, for the sake of our kids, and that children need a mother and a father.

My husband used to call me and threaten me, by trying to make me feel guilty, saying that he would kill himself if I didn't go back.

This one time, he threatened that if I ever left him he would find me and kill me, or beat me up so good, no one would want me. I believed him. I think he was capable of doing something like that. I went back to him.

I didn't deal with the abuse the way I should have, and that was by talking about it. My husband died 10 years into our marriage. It is only now that I am really dealing with my abuse. After my husband died, there was no more abuse. The abuse stopped.

But inside me, the pain is still there. I realized that when I was working as the Director of the Women's Shelter. I was listening to women's stories and these situations, and I used to feel angry and would ask myself, "Why doesn't she just leave him?" It made me take a look at myself and it made me realize that I had to deal with myself first before I could help anyone else. I worked at the shelter for one year, then I left.

But now I am not afraid to share my abuse. Many times I hear people saying, "It's her fault," and, "She asks to be beaten up." Sometimes this is said right to her face. There is no way a woman



deserves to get hit. I hear it so many, many times that it's the woman's fault. That starts to make her wonder, "Maybe it is my fault?" And this is another reason it makes it harder for the woman to get out of that relationship.

Last but not least, to the victims of spousal abuse: Don't keep the abuse to yourself. Deal with it by talking about it. Find someone you trust. Don't think you're alone. Many, many women are going through this.

The Nation wishes to thank all members of the Cree Local Management Board as well as Charles Rosset and Richard Desrosiers from HRDC for their encouragement and support in making this series of articles possible. Ginscuumdinan.

"Dialogue of the deaf"

The Nation goes head-to-head
with Quebec's main man in the forest

The Nation: I understand you used to work in Northern Quebec.

Jacques Robitaille: Yes, I used to work in Amos for eight years. I was director of the region they call Harricana for six years. At the time, it included the territories of Matagami and Lebel-sur-Quévillon. So I know this neighbourhood a little bit.

What did you do?

I was responsible for the management of the forests in this region. I am a forestry engineer, graduated in 1971.

When a logging company executive sees a forest, he sees dollar signs. What do you see?

I see much more a place where people live, an eco-system, something which we have to work with together. All the things we have done in the past few years have this in mind.

In the past 20 years, the forestry industry has clearcut 5,000 square kilometres in the Cree Territory, which is the same area as was flooded by the La Grande project. This was done with only a few thousand dollars of compensation to the Crees and without their consent. Is this situation something the government of Quebec can be proud of?

First of all, when you say 5,000 sq. km, if we take the entire territory covered by the James Bay Agreement, it's 1 million sq. km. The forestry industry cuts about 400 sq. km per year and the entire part of the territory with commercial forests is 50,000 sq. km. Compared to the entire territory, the area affected is relatively small. In the James Bay Agreement, the use of the forests by the forestry industry was always recognized.

But the level of forestry that was foreseen in the Agreement when it was signed in 1975 is not the same level that later transpired.

Well, I could not say... But everything was done according to what was in the Agreement. It is also regulated by the Forest Act of Quebec. For example, it's necessary for companies to have management plans which conform to the laws. Everything was done in accordance with these regulations, as far as I know.

The James Bay Agreement also says that the government must protect the traditional way of life of the Crees based on the land. The Agreement says that any development project which affects more than 25 sq. miles must be subjected to an environmental impact study. But this is never done with forestry.

continued on next page

Jacques Robitaille is Quebec's top forestry-policy czar, Assistant Deputy Minister of Natural Resources responsible for forestry. In this interview, we asked him to respond to Cree concerns about forestry. **BY ALEX ROSLIN**



Jacques Robitaille: "When there are debates that are more political, it's a little like a dialogue of the deaf."

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (QUEBEC): DANIEL LESSARD REF. #91-751-14

"We don't pretend that everything is perfect, that we are the best in the world."



But you have to understand that forestry exploitation is not covered by impact studies under the Agreement. Since there are already rules that govern forestry activities, it was never said that there need to be impact studies of these activities in the Agreement.

What it says is that any development that affects more than 25 sq. miles must be subject to an environmental impact study. It doesn't specify forestry or any other type of development.

There are management plans which are submitted to the James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment. The James Bay Advisory Committee has never demanded an environmental impact study.

I have here a study that was done by the Grand Council of the Crees. It has many photos that are a little disturbing. They show violations of the forestry regulations, including culverts where there should be a bridge, poorly built logging roads and culverts, machinery abandoned at the side of the road, garbage dumps that are badly built and maintained. The Crees have made many complaints concerning such violations. Do you think the government is doing enough to ensure that the law is respected?

Me, I think yes. It is obvious that it's a little like if I say on the highways of Quebec the speed limit is 90 km/h. I am convinced there are people who do more than 90. But the general rule is there.

We know there are people who, unfortunately, violate these rules. The ministry applies its rules as strictly as possible.

And, personally, we think we are in control of the situation. I find it unfortunate if you take some isolated cases like this, then you show it and say, look what's happening. Probably there are still some companies that are going to have to be disciplined. On this, we have always thought that aboriginal people and citizens of other communities in Quebec should be partners with us to help us ensure that the laws are respected. Any complaint that may be made will receive the attention it requires and we will apply the regulations.

We cannot guarantee a 100-per-cent result, but in general we can say that the results are very acceptable. I will repeat what I said last week at a conference on the environment and development: We don't pretend that everything is perfect, that we are the best in the world. But the commitment we made in Quebec is that we will implement changes that reflect our knowledge and which are manageable by everybody.

There is an example of the kind of forestry practices that are provoking concern. South and east of the community of Ouje-Bougoumou, there is a clearcut that measures 15 km on one side and 3 to 8 km on the other side. Do you think this is compatible with the way of life of the Crees?

What I can tell you is that something like this will not be possible in the future with the new regulations we have just put in place. The rules are much more strict as to the size of clearcuts. It is necessary to leave a border of trees separating clearcut areas.

And we are using a new idea called "territorial units of reference." Inside a

"territorial unit of reference," there must be at least 30 per cent forest cover of 7 metres and over. The objective is to try to follow a little bit the territory of the traplines and to develop a canopy of old, young and intermediate forests. This is a new regulation that has been in effect since April 1 of this year.

It is your opinion that 30 per cent of the forests are enough to assure the survival of the traditional way of life of the Crees?

You have to understand it's 30 per cent with cover of 7 metres and over. That's not to say that the rest will be a desert. This is also on top of many other measures which add to each other. The permitted size of clearcuts has been reduced from 250 hectares to 150 hectares. We spent a lot of time developing these measures and they were developed because of the concerns of aboriginal people about the protection of traplines.

Maybe we could speak about the penalties which the government imposes on companies that violate forestry regulations. In Quebec, if a company cuts down a tree illegally, the penalty is \$100 per tree. In British Columbia, it's \$5,000. The maximum penalty in B.C. is \$1 million with the possibility of two years in prison. Here, it's \$10,000. Many people say that there aren't enough inspectors to assure respect of the law. Does the government have the will to ensure respect of the law?

The government does have the will to ensure respect, but I never like comparisons, especially with British Columbia.

"This is a shameless manipulation of the figures."

Personally, I don't find it very flattering. British Columbia has had their forestry law only since last year, while we've had our law since 1986. A tree in B.C. is worth many thousands of dollars. A three or four-inch-thick black spruce from here is not worth thousands of dollars. It has to be put into perspective. This type of comparison is completely unacceptable.

In Quebec, before 1986, forestry was governed by administrative rules. Now,

continued on page 16

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Section 1 **ABOUT YOU**

1. **SEX:** ☐ Male
☐ Female
2. **AGE:** ☐ under 18 years old
☐ 18-30 years old
☐ 31-50 years old
☐ 50 years and older
3. **HOME COMMUNITY:** _____
4. **HOW OFTEN DO YOU FLY BY AIRPLANE?**
☐ never
☐ 1-2 times a year
☐ 3-9 times a year
☐ 10-20 times a year
☐ over 21 times a year
5. **WHERE DO YOU GO THE MOST OFTEN FOR YOUR
BIG SHOPPING TRIPS? (PLEASE CHOOSE ONLY 1)**
- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> within Cree territory | <input type="checkbox"/> Chibougamau |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Montreal | <input type="checkbox"/> Radisson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Val d'Or | <input type="checkbox"/> Chicoutimi |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ottawa | <input type="checkbox"/> Jonquière |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Timmins | <input type="checkbox"/> North Bay |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radisson | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other town (please specify) _____ | |

6. **DO YOU BUY FROM MAIL ORDER CATALOGUES?**

- ☐ always
☐ sometimes
☐ never
☐ don't know

7. **WHICH AIRLINE DO YOU USE THE MOST?**

- ☐ Canadian
☐ Air Creebec
☐ Other Airline
☐ I don't fly

Section 2 **ABOUT THE NATION**

8. **HOW OFTEN DO YOU READ THE NATION?**

- ☐ every two weeks
☐ once a month
☐ a few times a year
☐ once a year
☐ never

9. **PLEASE CHECK THE ITEMS YOU READ IN THE NA-
TION: (USE AS MANY CHECKS AS YOU NEED)**

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Editorial | <input type="checkbox"/> Rez Notes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> News & Briefs | <input type="checkbox"/> Letters to the Editor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poetry | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertisements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legends & Stories | <input type="checkbox"/> Classified Ads |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ | |

10. DO YOU LOOK AT ADVERTISING TO FIND OUT WHAT PRODUCTS AND SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE?

- ☐ always
☐ sometimes
☐ never
☐ don't know

11. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE OF IN THE NATION? (USE AS MANY CHECKS AS YOU NEED)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> education issues | <input type="checkbox"/> health issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sports | <input type="checkbox"/> community events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> community news/announcements | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> career/job opportunities | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> youth issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Cree conferences/Meetings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> hunting | <input type="checkbox"/> poetry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> legends | <input type="checkbox"/> national news |
| <input type="checkbox"/> international news | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> woman's issues | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify) _____ | |

Section 3

ABOUT OUR LEADERS

12. DO YOU THINK CREE LEADERS/CREE ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD HOLD MEETINGS, CONFERENCES, TRAINING SESSIONS, ETC. IN CREE TERRITORY?

- ☐ yes
☐ no
☐ don't know

13. DO YOU THINK THE GRAND COUNCIL OF THE CREES (GCCQ) SHOULD DO MORE TO KEEP YOU INFORMED ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON?

- ☐ yes
☐ no
☐ don't know

14. DO YOU THINK YOUR BAND COUNCIL SHOULD DO MORE TO KEEP YOU INFORMED ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON?

- ☐ yes
☐ no
☐ don't know

15. DO YOU THINK CREE LEADERS SHOULD DO MORE TO KEEP YOU INFORMED ABOUT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT?

A) locally in your Community **B) Regionally, throughout the Cree Territory**

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> yes | <input type="checkbox"/> yes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> no |
| <input type="checkbox"/> don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> don't know |

16. WHERE DO YOU LOOK FOR JOB POSTINGS? (USE AS MANY CHECKS AS YOU NEED)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Nation</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Family members |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T.V. | <input type="checkbox"/> Friends |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio | <input type="checkbox"/> Gossip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Meetings | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Sources (please specify) _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Up Notices | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't look for job opportunities | |

17. (OPTIONAL) WHAT CHANGES OR IMPROVEMENTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE NATION? (PLEASE USE THE SPACE BELOW. IF YOU NEED MORE SPACE, PLEASE ATTACH A SHEET OF PAPER.)

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there are judicial rules and we are taking people to court. There are published judgements and penalties are imposed.

I tried to get a list of the penalties imposed on each company from your ministry, but I was told that this list is not public. Why is it not public?

A judgement is always public. So if there is a judgement you should be able to get it. What I can tell you is that in 1994, we had 430 cases. Of these, there were three acquittals. It's true there are still 211 cases that are not closed, but there were \$353,000 in penalties imposed on the industry in 1994. Since 1990, we took 1,961 cases before the courts and there were nearly \$1.4 million in penalties. But there are still 614 cases that are not resolved.

Earlier this year, a European Parliament Member held a press conference to say that Quebec is the Brazil of the North and that its forestry policies violate the rights of Native people. Does this perception concern the government?

It concerns us because these are people who have no idea what's happening here, who propagate ideas like this often fed with very fragmentary and very confused information. If we take the territory of James Bay, we have an Agreement that dates to 1975. There is a consultative mechanism with the James Bay Advisory Committee. All management plans affecting this territory are available to the recognized communities. All annual plans are the subject of discussions between the industry and the communities.

If we take the community of Waswanipi, they have entered into a project with one of the companies. I know that the same company, Domtar, has an agreement that works very well with one of the communities (*Winneway—ed.*)

What we see is there is the political discourse, which to me is one thing, but there is also the reality on the ground where what is happening with the local trappers and communities—I'm not sure it is as bad as certain people would have us believe for the ends of giving themselves a bit of political capital or publicity.

Me, when I look at all the changes in the forestry regime in Quebec, we compare well with other provinces and countries. But if we are going to make comparisons, we can compare our forests with the European forests, where they are all plantations.

I've heard you say in an interview that the most important thing is dialogue. Can you elaborate?

I think in the last few years people have learned to understand each other a little better. It's sure that in the 1970s, the role of forestry and other activities which took place in the forest was less important. People could do what they wanted, each in their little corner, without their activities being in conflict.

Now, we have entered a situation where people's interests clash, and it's necessary for people to talk to each other and come up with ways to live together. When there are debates that are more political, it's a little like a dialogue of the deaf. Whenever we take the debate to those who live off the resource and live in the forests, I think we can arrive at something that is very acceptable and which is consistent with sustainable development.

It's sure that as soon as people started having this dialogue, the way forestry work was done changed, and this is the approach that we prefer. If people are able to find common ground, I think there are benefits for one side and the other. Forestry development that is done well can help certain types of wildlife and plantlife. We know that old-growth forest might be good for the marten, but absolutely not good for the moose.

What a Cree might say to you is that in the past, people tried many times to start a dialogue with certain companies. When they gave information about special hunting and fishing sites, burial sites, it was not used. Loggers even started going to these areas to hunt and fish themselves. At the moment, there are two new logging roads—one built by Domtar, the other proposed by Chantiers Chibougamau—which are opposed by the people of Waswanipi and Mistissini, but there is no dialogue from the side of the forestry companies. Is it not the role of the government to force the companies to listen to the Crees when those companies don't want to listen?

It's sure that in the past, there was a lack of dialogue. Certain companies were faster to respond, others were slower. The government has acted to force this dialogue. This was why we obliged the companies to submit a management plan and there is no question of accepting a management plan if there was no consultation or dialogue. The annual plan is discussed with the local communities in every case.

I don't think this has ever been done. I'm not sure if a company has ever consulted with a Cree community.

It is done with the James Bay Advisory Committee. There are discussions with all the Cree communities in every case.

You are aware that Canada signed the Protocol of the Rio de Janeiro Conference on the Environment in 1992. The declaration says that governments must assure that indigenous peoples must be protected from development projects that could disturb their traditional way of life. It also says indigenous people must be included in the formation of all national policies that affect resources on their lands, and they must benefit economically from the exploitation of those resources. Does the Quebec government support this declaration?

Not only does it support this declaration—the government of Quebec passed a decree supporting this declaration—but last spring, the government included in the preamble of the Forest Act of Quebec the six criteria of sustainable development that were adopted by the United Nations. And we made a commitment to base our future actions on these criteria, which include a socio-economic section that covers the whole question of local communities. This was done during the last amendment to the law in April.

Did you consult Native peoples when you made these changes?

The aboriginal nations participated at the Canadian level in the definition of these six criteria which are recognized as the criteria of sustainable development.

But when you changed the Forest Act, did you consult Native peoples?

What we did was include the criteria of sustainable development. We didn't change anything that could harm Native people. We committed ourselves to go further toward sustainable

"It's sure that in the past, there was a lack of dialogue."

"Forestry development that is done well can help certain types of wildlife and plantlife."

development.

On the other changes, there were numerous discussions over the last years with Natives—the size of clearcuts, regeneration of the forests. All this came out of the discussions we've had in the past with Native people and is part of our strategy to protect the forests, which was itself the object of a vast public consultation, to which Natives were invited also.

But did they participate?

In some cases, there were some communities that participated.

Did the Crees?

Well, it was a few years ago that it happened. But one of the things that came out of it—and we're the only government that has done this to my knowledge—is that chemical products are to be phased out in forestry operations by the year 2000.

Was the James Bay Advisory Committee consulted about the changes to the Forest Act?

Listen, I know that... My God, it was one of the biggest consultations ever held by the BAPE (*Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement*—ed.) We're talking about something that happened in 1989.

Another section of the Rio de Janeiro Declaration says each government must set aside a certain part of its territory to be protected from development. The Rio Conference and other international norms state that 10 to 12 per cent of each country's territory should be protected. British Columbia protects 9.2 per cent, in the U.S. it's 6 to 8 per cent, but in Quebec it's a lot less. Officially, it's 0.5 per cent, although the amount will soon be increased to 4.2 per cent. Is this enough?

This is a shameless manipulation of the figures. The 12 per cent, I don't know if you know where this comes from. This is something arbitrary. The Europeans checked what the amount was in their countries. It was 12 per cent and they said, now the norm is 12 per cent. You tell me we're going

to put aside 12 per cent to be protected from all development in Canada—that's like a whole province. I'm not sure that makes any sense. It has to be seen in perspective.

If you take the black spruce, which covers thousands and thousands of square kilometres, should we protect 12 per cent of the black spruce? Or is 1 per cent enough? This debate has not yet taken place. There are immense portions of the territory of Quebec which are not used and which will never be used. Should we also put this into the equation? If it isn't used, should we consider that it is under protection?

So there is a whole debate that isn't over and I think we should first evaluate all the eco-systems that should be protected. Maybe we should protect 20 per cent of certain eco-systems. Others, maybe 5 per cent is enough. But there is a commitment by the government of Quebec to attain a level of protected spaces comparable to that in other countries. What B.C. forgets to say when they use that figure is it includes territories that are inaccessible because of mountains.

In James Bay right now, there isn't any territory that is protected from development. Do you think this is acceptable?

When the Europeans say you have to protect 12 per cent—you have probably been to Europe, you have seen the pressure that exists there because of the density of the population—I think we are not in the same situation when we take a territory like James Bay. I think to protect 12 per cent of James Bay would be relatively easy to do, and I think to take a number like 12 per cent is not intelligent.

Are there any plans to protect any part of James Bay?

Yes, there are plans. After the Rio summit, an inter-ministerial committee was set up in the government of Quebec to put into practice the commitments made at Rio. I will give you just one example. The government just published its strategy on bio-diversity in Quebec's forests at the beginning of the summer. No other province has made such a commitment. There were a series of measures taken following the Rio summit. We are as advanced as any other government on this issue.

And when you throw around a number like 12 per cent, which for me is a totally arbitrary number that doesn't mean anything, what we need to do is assure that everything that needs to be protected is protected.

The government has already given companies the right to cut in the whole southern part of James Bay through the timber-license agreements. If you are planning to protect this area, do you plan to take some of this back?

First of all, if you talk about the territory that was given to the forestry industry, there was no territory given to the forestry industry. The industry has the right to harvest as long as they respect certain norms and rules. In these rules, we strive to maintain the forest cover, or at least the same type of forest cover.

I know there are certain issues that are controversial. I find it unfortunate that sometimes people use examples that are very isolated. If you take the whole territory of James Bay, we know it covers 1 million square kilometres, and there are 40,000 sq. km of this territory that are covered by the timber-license agreements. One per cent of this area—400 sq. km—is cut every year. We always have to put this into perspective. We are aware that in the local communities this could have impacts, and what we're aiming for is that the impacts will be nearly non-existent.

At the same time, we think that an old forest that is deteriorating anyway is not necessarily a good thing if this is what we have in the whole territory.

Okay, thank you.
My pleasure.

Crees Take Control Over Job Training



The Grand Council of the Crees is about to sign an agreement with Human Resources Development Canada to take over administration of adult training and employment programs. The Grand Council is optimistic that finally Crees are taking more control over the future of their communities. The change will enable Crees to provide programs that are better suited to our nation. It will help Cree people improve their skills and employment opportunities.



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CREES MAKE CASE AT ECO-SUMMIT

BY WILLIAM NICHOLLS

The World Conservation Congress came to Montreal October 17 to 21. The Grand Council of the Crees was on hand with a booth to represent Cree concerns with forestry.

Along with a seven-minute video called *Trees and Crees* was a pamphlet entitled the same. The Cree message was clear and concise. The Crees argued that forestry development in the Cree traditional lands is not sustainable and it interferes with Cree traditional lifestyles. In total, the amount of forest that has been cut since 1975 is roughly equal to the amount of land flooded by the La Grande reservoir. Many of the pictures the GCCQ present are grim, but there is hope, says Paul Dixon, one of the Crees on hand at the booth.

"When I first started coming to these types of events I had to argue my case. Now people are coming up and agreeing with me. It's been a change from five years ago," Dixon claimed.

On hand for the festivities were many other presentors including other Native groups from across the world, governments, and of course, industry. One of the industries present was the pulp-and-paper people, who proudly displayed the new industry standards. "These are the new standards that will apply across Canada," stated the PR spokesperson. When I asked him who the enforcing agency was, he seemed shocked. "These are voluntary standards, all standards are voluntary!" was his reply.

Among the other concerns raised was the proposed European ban on wild fur. Documentation was available showing humane trap research and the results (Magnum and Coni-bear styles are predominantly used by Crees). Documentation also pointed out that the Europeans were never the ones who started the fur trade, but that Natives traded between communities and had extensive trading routes before the Vikings even landed here.

One Native presentation by the Haida discusses the animal-rights movement and the fact that it has become a profitable industry. It also asks where the money is going. No humane shelters have been founded, better methods of animal husbandry researched, protected wildlife zones have not been created, research has not been funded to support healthy and sustainable wildlife populations, no endangered species have been saved (seals, though cruelly treated, were never endangered). On the other side, cures have been found for diseases by using animals for testing.

Instead, the Old Masset Village Council of the Haida Gwaii say that public donations pay for overly high salaries and travel to exotic places for professional organizers, who ultimately "ignore science and professional wildlife managers and will use images of cuddly little animals in order to demonize the hunter and his tools."

Other booths included different indigenous peoples from around the world. Many Native displays showed off their culture and



PHOTOS BY NEIL DIAMOND

environment as can be seen by the photos. Some things were interesting such as the leaf plate. It was a substitute for the disposable paper plates that we use today.

Neil Diamond and myself enjoyed the dried smoked salmon which the Haida Gwaii booth was giving out, but unfortunately didn't arrive in time for the smoked caribou and musk-ox jerky. Oh well, there's always the next conference.

More than 100 resolutions were passed, including one for environmental protection of Ontario's Temagami wilderness. Mining and forestry have been having problems with protesters, Native and non-Native alike. They'll also review the formula for determining endangered marine life. Atlantic cod appeared on the "red list" of threatened species this year. Canada is fighting to change the formula, which it says is unscientific and exaggerates endangered status. A Montreal conservation group supported an initiative to examine what's up with temperate and boreal forests around the world.



COMMUNITY RADIO: TAKEN FOR GRANTED?

BY JIM WALLACE

Northern community radio has been used for decades to unite and inform Native people. Long before the existence of television or even telephone service, radio was an important part of everyday life. In the last decade, the importance of radio has declined. Small community stations have been taken for granted and they no longer have the impact they once did.

The phrase, "You don't know what you've got 'till it's gone," explains the current state of community radio.

I have had the chance to install radio stations in many remote communities. In August of this year, I was asked to build a radio station similar to the ones used in many Cree communities. The difference was that this station was to be installed in Antigua, a small country located a few hundred miles southeast of the Virgin Islands in the Caribbean. Antigua has a population of about 65,000 people living on an island about 12 km long.

Television and radio services broadcast a great deal of government propaganda. Highly placed government officials are also shareholders in these stations. Huge financial subsidies are fed into the pockets of these same shareholders by their own government.

The owners of *The National Observer*, a local daily newspaper, wanted a change.

The Observer has been publishing the untold side of many corrupt deals and unfair legal decisions for years. The paper has not been able to reach all of the Antiguan nation because many individuals have difficulty reading.

Radio seemed to be the answer. Although the project was started over three years ago, Antiguan government officials had blocked every move with red tape, to protect their own interests.

The decision was made to go on the air without government support. This would force a confrontation that would lead to a court battle. Lawyers for *The Observer* were confident that the station had to be permitted under constitutional law.

I started the contract with a three-week deadline until airtime. There was an incredible amount of public support for the project. Antiguanians were eager to hear another view over the airwaves. *The National Observer* started to print a daily countdown to air date. Thousands of Antiguanians were watching the events that were unfolding like a soccer match.

The radio station site was kept a close secret. Studio construction and air conditioning were done by supporters for "A New Voice for Antigua Radio 91.1." The station was quietly assembled within the sight of the Antiguan police station, a fact that I am certain caused a considerable amount of embarrassment later.

Two days before the opening date, I found myself in the station transmitting tests to check the radio coverage. The army and police were still not aware of the position at that time, and all went well. Except for the singing of tree frogs that penetrated the studio sound-proofing, Radio 91.1 was ready to go on the air according to plan.

I wanted to stay for the grand opening but it was recommended that I leave the country immediately before I possibly ended up detained by the government, should the prime minister not appreciate my contribution to democracy.

After arriving safely back in Montreal, I awaited the results. The station was on the air for two days before the police could find it.

continued on page 21

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**Creenet Inc. is offering free Internet to
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**From November 1st to 30th,
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1. Set-up your modem to dial 819-978-0303
2. At the prompt enter your login name as "cree" (do not use capital letters)
3. Enter your password "internet"
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This offer is limited and shall terminate without notice on December 1st, 1996. Should you require additional information please feel free to call Mr. Mike McGee, Director of Operations, Creenet Inc. at Tel: 819-978-0264, ext. 217. Please be advised that long distance charges will be the user's responsibility.

HAVE FUN!

COMMUNITY RADIO... CONT'D

All of the equipment was politely and carefully seized. After all, no one wanted to be front-page news. This was democratic power. During the brief life of Radio 91.1, most of the people of Antigua listened to the station and liked what they heard... another, more truthful radio voice. There will be no going back. The democratic direction of the country has been changed.



JIM WALLACE

Legal delays that have kept the station off the air for years have been bypassed. The case goes to court this month. The voice of 91.1, with the help of the justice system, will return soon.

The facts are that a dedicated group of people were willing to risk going to jail to establish the right to broadcast from a community radio station.

Massive budget cuts for CBC shortwave, and within the CBC itself, might cut off Cree services that have been taken for granted. A nation that can no longer communicate individual ideas between its own people is no longer a nation.

The next time you listen to Cree regional news in the morning, imagine what would happen if a future country to the south pulled the plug.

Do not take community radio, and your democratic freedom to use it, lightly. It is a powerful political instrument that can help to guarantee the future of the Cree Nation.

Coming On CBC TV Maamuitaau

November 23 and 24

During September, residents of Eastmain took steps to help their community. Chief Kenneth Gilpin and seven other people walked a total of 710 kilometers to help raise money for a new community arena. Join **Maamuitaau** as we talk and walk with the participants.

November 25 and December 1

Maamuitaau takes to the canvas this week with a portrait of artists Andrew Iserhoff and Terry Neeposh from Mistissini. Also on the program, we talk with Johnny Shecapio an artist and craftsman of traditional drums.

Watch Maamuitaau:

Saturdays	06:28	SRC
Sundays	07:00	CBMT
	18:00	SRC
	(subject to change)	

CBC  North

Future...

Scared of the future
And what it might hold
"Scary world out there"
is what I'm told
Don't want to get older
never grow up
Don't want to find a job
I give up
The future looks black
and mine's getting worse
Unprepared for what's ahead
It must be a curse
When I think about the future
I think of all my fears
facing them I know would only
bring back the tears
Dreaming of marriage and kids
seems all so much fun
Looking at it in reality
it just can't be done
Good grades, good college
it's always so hard
Why does it always come
down to this one report card

Fr: College student
in Montreal, Que.

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CLASSIFIEDS

100-BIRTHS

Congratulations to Julie and Ross House on the birth of their baby boy John-Ross House Andrew, born September 27. Also congratulations to the 1st time kookum and Gimshoom John and Judy. From all your relatives in Chisasibi.

Congratulations to Pauline Lameboy and Ben Dixon on the birth of their precious baby girl Alicia on October 1st, 1996. Give kisses to your little girl from the three musketeers. Can't wait to see her. See you soon, From Rene, Mary, Ojay.

Congratulations to Julie and Ross on the birth of their baby boy John Ross born on September 27, 1996. Wishing you joy and happiness. Friends always, Lillian and Tina in Chisasibi.

Congratulations to Brenda Jane Wap and John Blackned on the birth of their precious son Jonathan. May this child bring you both happiness, and joy and most of all love. God bless you all! From Brenda Rose, Joseph and little big Valerish (Nem)

Congratulations to Glen and Agnes Shecaplo on the birth of their beautiful daughter Nikki born on September 12, 1996. May your daughter bring so much love, laughter, pride and joy to the parents and grandparents (Vincent and Marion, George and Caroline) Congratulations and may the good lord bless you all! From Brenda Rose, Joseph and Valerish (Nemaska)

101-BIRTHDAYS

Happy 62nd birthday to a loving, caring father. My dad Johnny Swallow (Chis) on October 31st. Dad, time has changed so many things and time has helped me see what a special father you have always been to me, Yes, time has changed so many things but, I hope you know it hasn't changed my love for you. It's only made it grow. I love you from the bottom of my heart. Love always, your youngest daughter Cheryl (Chis) P.S. Happy Hal-loween

I wanna wish a happy birthday to my grandma Nellie Lameboy on September 8, 1996 and remember I love you always and forever. xoxoxoxoxoxoxoxo

I want to wish my sister Crystale a happy birthday on November 3 and to my brother Dale on October 17. Happy birthday to both of you and I wish I could celebrate with you. I miss you both so much. love, your baby sister MJ.

We would like to wish a happy belated birthday to two special persons in our lives, our son Jeffrey Miapo on October 9, 1996, to our grandson Albert Gilpin Jr. on October 5, 1996. Happy birthday to you both. We love you very much. We wish you all the best in the years to come. Love always, Thomas, Mary and Family Eastmain.

Wishing a very happy birthday to my one and only nephew Terrell in Montreal. Love always, Alice.

We would like to wish our godson Tristan Pepabano happy birthday on October 4, 1996. We love you and care for you always With love, your godparents.

We would like to wish our big sister a happy 18th birthday on the first of October to Sabrina Sarah Shasheweskum. We wish you all the best and many more years to come! Love always, Brendan, Neeblin, and Diana Alison. Wemindji, Quebec.

Happy 1st birthday to my son Kenny Victor Macleod on October 21. You are and always will be the love of my life. From your mommy

Happy 1st birthday to my buddy Jared Benac on October 13. Maybe next year we can celebrate. From your pal Kenny.

Birthday greetings going out to Kathleen Rupert in Chisasibi. She'll be celebrating her birthday on October 25th, 1996. Remembering you on your birthday. With love, The Stephen Family (Wask)

We would like to wish a happy birthday to our friend Julie Pachanos on October 30, 1996. may you wishes come true. From your friends L. Matthew and T. Iserhoff in Chisasibi.

Happy birthday to Robert Martin on October 8, Kevin Martin on October 18. Wishing you all a successful year. xox Marcel and Helen and Sherwin.

This birthday wish is for my son Thomas Kakabat who will celebrate his second birthday on October 9, 1996. You fill my life with love and happiness every single day. I'm proud to say that you're my son. I love you very much. From Stephanie (Mom)

Birthday wishes going out to Eeshgo Louttit on October 31, 1996. From mom.

We would like to send birthday wishes to our two children. Dale on October 17. Happy 16th birthday and to our daughter Crystale. Happy 19th birthday. We are proud of you both and you are both growing into fine young people. We love you both very much. Love mom and dad.

Wishing a happy 44th birthday to the world's greatest mom Anna Bosum on October 21st. There will never be enough words to say or enough ways to show how much we love you. Mother, we thank you for always being there for us when we needed you. God bless you. With love from your daughters, Cecilia, Weena, Emily, Karen, Naomi and Lilybelle. (Ouje) xoxoxoxoxoxoxoxoxo

Happy 17th birthday to our brother Willie Bosum on October 6. Hey Will, did you know a brother is more than family?

the Nation's CLASSIFIEDS ORDER FORM

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101 BIRTHDAYS	201 TRIPS
102 WEDDINGS	202 FOR RENT
103 ANNIVERSARIES	300 PERSONALS
104 GRADUATIONS	400 EVENTS
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Money order payable: Beesum Communications. *The Nation* reserves the right to modify or refuse a classified. NOTE: We cannot ensure the accuracy of all classifieds.

He is a special friend for life. Anyways, hope your wishes and dreams come true. With love, from your brothers and sister (Ouje-Bougoumou)

Birthday greetings going out to a very special friend of ours Sherry Dixon who celebrated her 17th birthday on October 9, 1996. Hope you had fun on your birthday. From your true friends, CM, TB, GB, NB (Ojay) You just lost five good friends. (During the summer games. P.S. Don't party too much, you're not eighteen yet!(Just kidding)

Belated 17th birthday greetings going out to my one and only brother John Paul Wap Jr. on October 6, 96. Words cannot explain how much it means to me to have you as a brother. I love you. Good luck in every way, school, your training, love life

(Not!)...name it. We wish you the best of luck. With lots of love, your sis Brenda Rose and your niece Valerish. (Nem)

I'd like to wish Andy David Wapachee a happy 1st birthday on October 22. Hope you have a blast on your birthday. Don't eat to much cake now, OK? Tell mommy to take care of your teeth OK? From your second cuz, Valerie Tanya Rose (Nemaska) See you around dude!!!

Happy 21st b-day to our youngest, dearest sister, Linda Martinhunter on 07/30/96. A sister's a sister forever. A bond that diminishes never, a friend who is kindly and caring, a sibling God chooses for sharing. From Joanne, Valerie and Greta.

Three years ago a baby boy was born in Val d'Or on October 16, 1993 and we

CLASSIFIEDS

would like to wish a happy birthday to our adorable son Julien O. Gull who turned three this year. All through these years we've watched you grow and you have grown so fast. I remember the moment when we looked into your eyes, you brought joy and happiness into our lives. We love you so much with all our hearts. Best wishes to you and may all your dreams come true.. With all our love, Mommy (Lisa) and Daddy (Gary)

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my nephew Dylan on September 12, 1996. Best wishes to you boy and many more to come. I love you so much boy. take care. Love ya, auntie Lisa.

Happy 2nd birthday to our very precious niece Roslyn Salt. you are ver precious to us and we love you! love from Brenda and Gary

On November 8 this birthday wish going out to my nephew Troy H/Jack. Best wishes and many more to come. Love ya. See you. Love always, your auntie Lorraine.

Happy birthday to a special sister, Eva Icebound on October 30, 1996. I'm lucky to have a sister like you. Even though I don't say it often I just felt I had to let you know how special you are.. P.S. Don't party too much on that date. Don't forget work. Once again, happy. Love, sis Lorraine. and Claude

We would like to send a belated birthday wish to my sister Bianca Icebound. Her birthday was on the 1st of October, 1996. We hope you had a great one this year. P.S. Take care of yourself, see, love always, sis Lorraine and Claude.

Just remembered that you're turning another year older on October 11 uncle Timothy. By the time you read this, your b-day has gone by. Anyway, hope you enjoyed it. However you may have spent it. From Malachi.

We would like to wish happy birthday to our son Peter Weapenicappo on Sept. 13 in Eastmain. May your dreams come true and we'll always love you. With love always, your parents John and Bella Weapenicappo in Eastmain.

September 15. Happy second birthday to our granddaughter Beth June Weapenicappo in Eastmain. May your little hope and dreams come true. We always love you. With love always, you grandparents John Bella Weapenicappo. (Eastmain)

I would like to say happy birthday to my best friend in Eastmain Bessie Mayappo he birthday is on October 20th. May your dreams come true there are a lot of years to come and May God bless you. From your best friend in Eastmain Geraldine Weapenicapo. P.S. Happy birthday. Mrs. Peace you all.

Happy birthday to my brother Dale on October 17 and my sister Crystale on November 3. hey guys I didn't know I was going to miss this much. Now I have nobody to bug and mom gets upset when I bug your baby sisters. Anyways I love you both and all the best. Love, Matt.

We wanna wish a happy belated birthday to Edgar Gunner on September 8, 96 and Claude Coon on September 2, 1996. Hope all your wishes come true. P.S. See you guys soon From Yo Yo and You You (Chs) Take care. Lillian

We wanna wish a happy fourteenth birthday to a very understanding friend to us Sonia Petawabano on August 29. From Olivia and Lillian Martinhunter

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Jean Paul Martinhunter. He will be turning 16 on September 10. I hope you have a great time on your birthday. From your sisters Daisy Ann, Stephanie, Rachel and Annie in Chisasibi.

Happy birthday to my firstborn son Anthony who is in Ouje-Bougoumou, Quebec on October 18. You are a precious person to me. A treasure in my heart. You're someone who played a very special part in my life. Remember you are not alone. My love is always there for you and forever. God watch over you and everything/everwhere you go/do. Love always, your mom Agnes.

Happy birthday to my brother Anthony on October 18. Take care of yourself and God bless you on your day. Be good. From your brother Darryl in Wemindji, Quebec.

Happy 3rd birthday to Heather Hughboy on October 12. This past year you have changed my life in a special way. Your love, your smile have given me hope for a better tomorrow. Love always, your uncle Darryl in Wemindji.

We can't believe it you finally joined the big boy club on September 24th! Have a happy 18th birthday Jonathan. With all our love, mom, dad, Emma and Sebastian. xoxoxoxoxo (Montreal)

Sending birthday greetings to a very special person Nelson M. on October 12th. Hope your day will be as special as you are. I hope your wishes and dreams come true. I love you! xoxoxo, Stephanie B.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to our "dad" on October 12th. You have brought a lot of happiness and joy into our lives since the day we were babies. You are a very special, caring and a loving dad. You're the best. We love you! Love, your 2 daughters, Abigail and Roxanne.

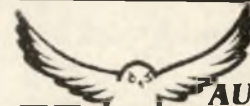
Happy birthday to my best friend Sherry D. on October 9 and Theresa w. on October 11. From friend always, Sonia B. P.S.

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MISTISSINI MINOR HOCKEY & BROOMBALL ASSOCIATION

Mistissini Annual Invitational Minor Hockey and Broomball Tournament November 21-24, 1996

On behalf of the Mistissini Minor hockey and Broomball Association, we are pleased to inform you that our annual Minor Hockey and Broomball tournament will be held in Mistissini on November 21, 22, 23 & 24, 1996.

Teams must send in the signed and completed registration form, along with the inscription fee no later than November 15, 1996.

CATEGORIES:	# OF TEAMS	PRIZES	INSCRIPTION
Hockey novice (7-9)	6	\$500.00 (Champions) \$300.00 (Finalists)	\$250.00
Atom (10-11)	6	\$500.00 (Champions) \$300.00 (Finalists)	\$250.00
Pewee (12-13)	6	\$1,000.00 (Champions) \$500.00 (Finalists)	\$300.00
Broomball Novice (7-9)	6	\$500.00 (Champions) \$300.00 (Finalists)	\$250.00
Cadet (10-12)	6	\$1,000.00 (Champions) \$500.00 (Finalists)	\$300.00

Additional Prizes: Trophies and Medals will be awarded to the finalists. Individual awards will also be presented to all categories. Also game stars will be selected in the semi-finals and finals.

Prize money may vary depending on the number of teams registered.

This tournament is organized for the intention of good Sportsmanship and good friendly spirit.

Note: Deadline for Inscriptions is November 15, 1996.

For more information or to register your team, please contact:
Jean-Baptiste Loon @ (418) 923-3461 ext. 246
Robie Petawabano @ (418) 923-3461 ext. 317

GOOD LUCK TO ALL TEAMS!

CLASSIFIEDS

Is our plan still on?!

On October 19, 1996 we would like to wish a happy birthday to our daughter who's getting beautiful everyday. We love you sooo much. Happy b-day and have fun on your special day seventh b-day. Love always, mom, dad, sister Amelia and brother Tyrone. xxx

A very happy birthday is to a very special woman in my life, my mother whom I love very much. I wish you all the happiness you very much deserve. From all of my heart. Your daughter in Waswanipi. xoxoxoxoxox

We would like to wish happy birthday to our grandma Elizabeth of Waskaganish on October 6. We hope you have a good time in your birthday. We love you so much. from your grandchildren, Nolan, Rayvin, Gaylin and Trishena.

Happy birthday to Tyson Weapenicappo on September 26, 1996. We love you. From Mom and Dad and brothers in Eastmain

Happy birthday to Sarah Jane Bearskin on September 27, 1996. You are special. We love you. From Roger and Barbara in Eastmain.

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to someone special, my brother Alexandr Brien on August 23, 1996. May your day be filled with happiness, love and laughter. Don't forget to visit me. You bring happiness to our lives. Love and prayers, Mary and Matthew Loon.

Happy birthday to my cuz and friend Cherish Mandy Stephen on October 10. Happy birthday and many more to come. See you soon! From Christina Jonah.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my sister in law Harriet Brien on October 8. May we remember that the heart never grows old if it is touched by the spirit of eternal youth. God bless you al-

ways, Love and prayers, Mary and Matthew.

Birthday greetings going out to my new husband Leonard on October 25th. Kerrie and I love you very much. Your sunshine.

Special birthday going out to a very special mother Agnes Moore in Chibougamou. I miss you so much! I can't wait to see you at Christmas. You'll be turning 40 years old on October 9. Luv you, Amy M.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Willie, Elizabeth, Gloria Diamond on October 6. Wishing you a wonderful birthday and many more to come. From Jimmy, Peggy, Boys and Trishena Katapatuk. (Wask)

My nephew Jules will be having his first birthday on October 15 and I would like to wish him all the best!! I hope you had a good one little guy! P.S. Please get well and come back home soon!! Miss you a lot. Love, auntie Diane

I would like to wish a happy birthday to my wife Emily on October 16. Remember I will always love you with all my heart and I care for you. Love, Robert Thomas Dixon. xoxoxoxoo Ouje-Bougoumou.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to Cindy Bosum on October 12. Love, Emily and Robert, Jacqueline and Lindros. xoxoxoxoxoo. Ouje-Bougoumou.

We would like to wish a happy birthday to our friends Paula Menarick on October 7 and Alice Matthew on October 31. We wish you have a happy day on your birthday. Hope your wishes will come true and one thing don't over party too much. From the Home Girls...in Chisasibi.

Happy birthday to Rod Blueboy on October 14, Sarah Blueboy on October 3,



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Marissa Blueboy on October 5, Pearl Blue boy on October 9, along with the best of wishes from Diane and Collin Blueboy.

Happy 1st birthday to my brother Gatylin Katapatuk on October 16. From your sister Trishena Katapatuk.

On October 14, 1996 I want to wish a happy birthday to a very special boy Abednego Gunner who is more like a son than a nephew to me. So, here's a song for you Abed. You are my sunshine. You make me happy when you play hockey. And I know someday you will be a star then one day you will give me money. So, please don't stop playing hockey!!! Now seriously, May the lord make his face to shine upon you and please always remember I love you. Signing off... Auntie Anna G. Neeposh.

Happy belated birthday to my baby sister Rachel Stella Longchap who will be turning 16 years old on September 24th, 1996. Love always, Hattie.

This birthday wish is for my son Thomas Kakabat, who will celebrate his second birthday on October 9, 1996. You fill my life with love and happiness every single day. I'm proud to say that you're my son. I love you very much. From Stephanie (mom).

I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my secret sister Mary B. Etapp on July 6. I know it's late but it's never too late to say I'm glad you're my secret sister and I love you. From Secret Pals.

I would like to wish a happy 16th birthday to my aunt Rachel Longchap and many more to come. By the way, I really miss those words A-Kun-Nah Boy! Hope you'll come and stay with us next summer. Bye with love, Freddie Dixon.

Birthday wishes to Anne-Marie Rupert on October 4, 1996 and Elvis Lameboy on October 13, 1996 also to Janet B. Erless on October 7, 1996 Hope all of you have wonderful birthdays.

Birthday greetings to our aunt Rachel Longchap. Best wishes from Melissa, Angie and Uriah Dixon.

Happy birthday on October 6, 1996 to Gloria Diamond. I love you so much. From Trishena Katapatuk of Waskaganish.

Happy birthday to our sweet little baby boy Gaylin Clint Edward Katapatuk on October 16. From Mom, dad, Rayvin and Nolan.

I would like to wish a happy birthday to Sam Cheezo on November 2, 1996. May your day be as special as you are and many more to come. From friend always, Sherri (Nemaska).

I would like to wish a happy 14th birthday to my sister Nancy Brien on August 20, 1996. I am so glad you are my sister. I wish you all the very best in the years to

come. Love always, your sister Mary

102-WEDDINGS

Congratulations to newlyweds Barry and Rebecca Bearskin on October 4, 1996 in Chisasibi. We wish you both all the joy and happiness and may your love grow stronger every day. Take care of your selves and your little girl Juanita. We would also say thank you to the maid of honour, Charlene Chiskamish and best man Warren McKee, Bridesmaids, Annie Matches, Nancy Matches, Angela Gates and Flower girl, Dorrianna Bobbish. Groomsmen, Sylvain Ratt, Glen Salt, Edward Bearskin and ring boy, Robert Bearskin. Thank you all for making their wedding even more special. Ah-good-a, Watchia. P.S. Rebecca and Barry, it was a very beautiful wedding. Love always, Edith and Gordon.

We would like to congratulate Clifford and Bella who got married on August 17, 1996. We wish you both a happy future. P.S. (And Dino) Love, Paula and John, Lee Roy and of course Nathan Rabbit, Rachel, Terrilyne and Terrence.

I would like to congratulate Caroline and Leonard Matt (Wasw) on their wedding day on September 28, 1996. Best wishes to both of you and many more to come. I hope you enjoyed your special wedding day as much as I did. I really enjoyed myself to help out on your wedding. Once again congratulations from Charlotte.

Congratulations to Jeannie Pelletier and Brian Wadden who were married in Chisasibi on August 8th. Linda briefly filled me in on the details. Thought of you on your special day Jeannie! Missed you in Mtl on your way back from your honeymoon. Write ASAP. You have my address remember! From CD in Hamilton

103-ANNIVERSARIES

Happy 53rd anniversary going out to our parents, grandparents, great grandparents Alice and Isaac Sealhunter. You will always be a special part of our lives. Thank you for giving us your unconditional love. We will always love you. From your children, 51 grandchildren and 28 great grandchildren. xoxoxoxoxoxo.

Wishing a happy 19th anniversary to my parents Billy and Clara Capissis on September 16, 1996. Wishing you both the very best and all the best in the years to come. Love always us. Minnie, Sharon. xxx 1/2/

I'd like to 2 wish a happy 5th anniversary 2 Eliza and Willie Moar on October 11, 1996. I wish you all the best. U 2 always been special to me. I love you both. From someone who's always there 4 u 2 baby-sit. Sylvia Georgekish.

Happy anniversary to Seanna and Wayne Rabbitskin on September 4th. Best wishes from guess who. MOH. Quit hiding Sean!

Happy 9th anniversary to Lydia my mom and my dad Thomas Blackned on September 4th. Happy anniversary and God bless you both. Love always your daughter Angela in Nemaska.

We would like to wish a happy 13th anniversary to our parents Ernie and Sandra Moses on September 13, 1996. Wishing you both love, joy and happiness. From you daughters in Eastmain.

I would like to wish happy 13th anniversary to my parents Sandra and Ernie Moses. May your hopes and dreams come true. I love you both even my bad times. With love always, your daughter Geraldine Weapenicappo. Eastmain, Quebec.

We would like to wish Sue and Ben a happy 14th anniversary on September 25, 1996. We wish you the best in upcoming years to come. We send our love to you and your family. From Flora and Sabrina. Val'd'Or. xoxoxox

We wanna wish a happy 13th wedding anniversary to Bessie and George Hester on October 1, 199 and many more to come. With all our love from mom and dad, Dennis, Mary, Lindy, Sandra and James (Wemindji)

I would like to wish a happy anniversary to my secret sister Mary B. Etapp on September 16, 1996. Have a happy life together and God bless your beautiful children. Love and prayers from your secret friend.

I would like to wish a happy anniversary to my husband John Matt on September 10, 1996. I want to tell you how much ILY. Even though we had rough times in our lives, but we pulled out. And John, I thank the lord for changing out lives. Once again, ILY very much. Love always, your wife Paula Matt.

We would like to wish Rick and Tammy Coon a happy anniversary on September 6, 1996 and many more to come. Love, Paula, John and Family.

We would like to wish John and Laurie Brien a happy anniversary on September 8, 1996 and many more to come. Love, John, Paula and family.

We would like to wish a happy anniversary to Annie and Paul Brien on September 20, 1996. May your days and years be filled with love, joy and happiness. Love and prayers, Mary and Matthew Loon.

Happy anniversary to Margaret and Alphonse Coonishish, Caroline and Simon Metable on October 6, 1996. Hope you all have a long life together. And many more to come. From Linda and Family.

We would like to wish a happy 5th anniversary to Tammy and Ricky Coon on September 6, 1996. Dear Lord of love,

bless this couple, double their joys and a strong sense of understanding of each other. Give them health and energy to provide for the necessities of life. When age settles upon them and the sunset of life gilds the evening of life with gold, may they still be hand in hand in heart. With love and prayers, Mary and Matthew Loon.

We would like to wish two very special couples a happy anniversary on October 20th. These couples are Steve and Darlene Cheechoo and Tommy and Rosie Rabbitskin. Happy anniversaries guys and may each year be more special as you grow old together. God bless you both in friendship, Gordon and Mary Jane.

I want to wish a happy 12th anniversary to two wonderful friends Nellie and Sandy Loon. May special happiness fill this day for both of you and enjoy life's happiest to your unborn child. God bless you. Mary and Matthew.

105-OBITUARIES

In memoriam. Coonishish Isaac. In loving memory of a very special dad who passed away four years ago October 20th. Not a day goes by when we do not think. The tears in our eyes we cannot wipe away. The blow was hard, the shock severe to part with the one we loved so dear. Sadly missed by your son Michael, daughter-in-law Linda and two grandchildren, Miranda and Clayton

200-FOR SALE

Snowmobile for sale. Polaris XCR 440 SP. Excellent condition. Low mileage. Best offer. (819) 855-2942. (Chisasibi).

300-PERSONALS

We just wanted to say hi to Melvin Masty and his friends. Are you guys having fun in Whapmagoostui? That's all we could say for now. We don't have much to say. P.S. See you guys soon. From Olivia, Annie, Lillian.

To Diana Iserhoff, the lord is righteous and loves good deeds; those who do them will live in his presence. Psalm 11:7. My pal you are always in my prayers. Secret Sister.

I am an English born woman. I am searching for anybody who wishes to correspond with. I am thirty years old and my love for native people and their culture is a passion I have always had. So if anybody with your permission would like to write to me I would be so happy and thankful. I long to share some historical spiritual knowledge and friendship with any Indian men that would like to teach me some culture. My address is 427 Copperfield, Chigwell, Essex, England, IG7 5NR. Thank you for your time in reading my letter. God bless you and your people. Best wishes. Morning Star.

CLASSIFIEDS

SEVERAL SLED DOG HARNESES NEEDED. Old style single file leather collar for large dogs. Maul to Henry Shouse. Box 483 St. C, Goose Bay Labrador. I'll either pay your immediately or return them immediately plus your postage. Must be in usable or repairable condition and reasonably priced. Please look around. Thank you.

To my sister Mary from Waskaganish who's attending college in Montreal (John Abbott to be precise) So how are you girl? Hope you're doing great. One word of advice, don't party too much, put studying first!! Miss you, your sister and nephew Collin!! Hang in there O.K.?!?!?

We would like to say a big hello to our very close friend Charmaine Pearlline Weistche. Just to let you know you being a good friend. When we was sad you make us happy. We miss all the good times. We hope your dreams and wishes come true. Hey! you've been really great from us. We think of you everyday, everybody misses you in Nemaska. From Christina Jonah and Marlon Cheezo in Nemaska.

We would like to say hi to my son Ronnie. We love you so much. Hope we will see you son. From your mom Barbara and your brother Lukas (Hull, Quebec) xoxoxoxo. P.S. Je T'aime.

I would like to say hello to my friends and that I miss them s. Paulette, Eric, Geraldine, Tiffany Crystal W., Tracy, Miranda, Cherish, Daphne and Crystal M I miss the good times. See you girls before Christmas. Love, your friend Christina

Hello to Cecily, Melinda, Norma, Sheena (Wask) Remember that you are always in our thoughts. Love, the Jonah girls, Krista and Savannah (Nemaska)

We would like to say a big hello and send kisses to our grandparents Roderick and Edna Jonah. We haven't done any blueberry picking yet gramma. Take care of dad! and we miss you all. Love, your grandchildren who are in Nemaska. xoxoxoxo

A great big hello to Deborah Wap (Candace, WabinJuksh) Lee-Ann N., Lillybelle J., Deborah Cheezo from North Bay. How's life? Fine, I hope. Good luck on your first year in College. See you gals soon. I miss you all, especially y you Candace, Wabulinjuksh. Take care! Love in friendship, Brenda Rose Wapachee (Nemaska) P.S. Write to me, I'd like to hear from yous.

I would like to say congratulations! to the Fugees on their 3-3 tournament champions and I also like to say to the Nikes, Congratulations on being the finalists. Also I would like to say hi to the home girls and don't party too much. From Guess who in Chisasibi. CG.

Ruth S.B. Just to let you know that I will

always love you. We went through some hard times but we overcame them all. Thank you for giving birth to our second boy Rick Shaquille Dixon. Love always, Samuel Dixon.. xoxoxoxo

Kevin L. I gave you my number. I'm still waiting for your call. C. (Waswanipi)

Allen. We hope that Santa will give you what you always wanted to borrow all the time at the office. A new computer! From the ladies at the office (WBC)

Hello to Stella, Jacob and Desiree Ottereyes in Montreal. Just to let you know we are thinking of you and we are counting the days till you come home for Christmas. Love you, miss you. From the Lazarus' in Chisasibi.

Hi to aunt Cyndi in Hull. Hope you are doing well at Ottawa U. Keep studying and working hard. We miss you so much. Can't wait to come and see you. Take care. Love, the Lazarus' in Chisasibi.

I just want to say hi! to my friends in Chisasibi, NR, DS, CS, AS. So, how are you girl? Hope you girls have good lives. Remember in Chisasibi. From in Nemaska.

To my lovely special friend in Waskaganish. I just want to say hi to you. So how is everything in your life. I will like to have some contact with you again. Because I was wondering if you put me down, something burn inside if me. I feel my heart fall apart. Please come back to me. From At Lover Fall Apart! "Razor"

Please try to believe this message. She is the victim and I am the perpetrator. It is not enough for me to tell her on the phone, how much sorry I am because of what I did to her, I did not only hurt her. The people, her family, and our family too. Despite of what happened, I am truly sorry about it, that's how I can express my feelings, lots of remorse and regret...

Penpals wanted for friendly exchange of letters. If interested write to: M. Capissit, 83, Opataca Meskino, Ouje-Bougoumou, Quebec, G0W 3C0. Must be 13 to 18, M/F.

I just want to say hi! and how much I miss you from across the miles. (FB) in Nemaska. So, when are you coming down? I miss ya! U know me. Ouje-Bougoumou. Don't party too much...(Remember September 14, 1996) xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

A message going out to two special friends of mine. I know I haven't been the greatest friend to you girls but you will always mean a lot to me for always being there for me when I needed to talk. So, I would like to thank you so much. It isn't anyone who's lucky enough to have friends like you. Thanx again. Love in friendship, Minnie C.

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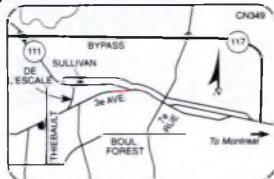
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